# EOF Undergraduate Eligibility Training

CONDUCTED BY:

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF HIGHER EDUCATION (OSHE)

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FUND (EOF)

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# Agenda

- Overview of the Mission and Purpose of EOF
- EOF Undergraduate (UG) Recruitment and Admission Process
- EOF UG Eligibility Requirements
- EOF Summer/Winter Session, Part-time vs. Non-Funded, NJ GEAR UP, NJ College Bound and TRIO students
- EOF Transfer Students and NJ Dreamers
- NJFAMS Verification
- Discretionary/Non-funded Appeals

# Overview: Mission and Purpose of EOF

# NJ Educational Opportunity Fund

New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund created by law in **1968**

**For students from educationally and economically disadvantaged backgrounds** attending institutions of higher education in NJ

**EOF Provides**

**Student support services**
UG summer bridge program, advising/counseling, tutoring, developmental coursework, academic enrichment activities, student leadership development

**Financial Assistance**

# Recruitment/Admission

# EOF Admission, Eligibility, and Contact Information

With nearly all applicants referring to the internet for information regarding EOF admission and eligibility requirements, it is very important for EOF campus programs to ensure that you regularly review the accuracy of the information online and within any printed materials.

EOF Campus program directors and staff should ensure that the language that is used to communicate with prospective students is appropriate.

In addition to reviewing your program's information on your respective institutional website, EOF Campus directors must also assist the OSHE/EOF Central Office in ensuring that your admission requirements and contact information is accurate on the OSHE website.

View the contact information for each of our Public Research Universities, State Colleges and Universities, Community Colleges, and Independent Colleges and Universities and campus programs.

# General Overview: EOF Recruitment, Eligibility and Admission

- Recruitment and admission into EOF is conducted at the campus level.
  - OSHE/EOF does not make any admission decisions.
- EOF Campus programs are responsible for developing an action plan to recruit and admit eligible students, including transfers, for participation in EOF.
- Outreach and recruitment is a year-round endeavor.
- Institutions must ensure that all institutional requirements for admission into the EOF campus program are publicly available and shared with the external community.
- All applicants have the right to appeal their admission decision if they believe there was a misapplication of the EOF regulations as it pertains to their eligibility for the Fund.
- There are only two types of students that can be served by the EOF campus program: **Funded and Non-Funded**.

# Criteria for Admission

Each institution shall develop clearly defined criteria for the admission of students, consistent with the EOF mission, scope, purpose, student eligibility, and student transfer procedures

Such criteria shall be available to secondary schools and community organizations in the recruitment region.

EOF admissions criteria shall be derived from a combined assessment of qualitative and quantitative indices.

| | |
|---|---|
| Qualitative indices: personal interviews, employment history, volunteer and student leadership experiences, and letters of recommendation from knowledgeable community leaders. | Quantitative indices: student aptitude test scores, high school transcripts, institutional entrance and placement tests, and writing samples. |

Regulation: 9A:11-4.6

# Student Eligibility-Broad Assessment

- The institution shall make and document a broad assessment of the student's motivation and talent (latent, as well as demonstrated) based on interviews, recommendations, high school records, and other requisite application materials.

- An eligible initial first-time full-time undergraduate shall exhibit evidence of the potential to succeed in college, but:
  - Needs academic preparation to gain admission under an institution's regular standards of admission (where applicable) and shall have standardized test scores that are below the institutional norms; **or**

  - Has an educational background that indicates a need for improved basic skills, additional academic support, or additional preparation for a desired degree program. (Note: Students who typically meet regular admission standards and have excelled academically while in high school may fall into this category due to their need to receive additional academic support (i.e. advising, tutoring, etc.) while in pursuit of their degree.

# Historical Poverty

**To be eligible, a student must demonstrate a history of poverty, which includes:**

Documented, long-term economic hardship of the family, such as the accumulation of assets that do not exceed *20 percent of the EOF financial eligibility scale*, per household size as established in N.J.A.C. 9A:11-2.3(a)

The inability to provide more than the basic needs of family members, as evidenced by at least one of the following:

- Attended/graduated from a school district where 40% or more of enrolled students are eligible for free/reduced price lunch program
- Resided in a municipality that is a high-distress/labor surplus area or an eligible urban aid municipality
- Resided in area that has historically been populated by low-income families
- Areas called a “pocket of poverty,” with characteristics of a high-distress/labor surplus area, even if municipality is not formally identified
- Being a first-generation college student who is, or whose family is, eligible for government assistance and/or educational programs targeted toward low-income and disadvantaged populations (TRIO programs, free and reduced breakfast/lunch programs, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly food stamps); or
- Having successfully completed a NJ GEAR UP state project, NJ College Bound, or TRIO grant program.

# EOF Eligibility, Admission, & Communications

Students should know the difference between an institutional requirement versus an EOF statewide requirement.

Institutions should inform students about their **eligibility,** especially their rank within funding priorities and the availability of EOF Art. III grant funds.

- Institutions should provide applicants the specific reason for their ineligibility or denial into the program.
- If a candidate is placed on a waitlist, they should be informed and offered a date regarding their acceptance status in the program.
- Institutions/EOF campus programs should refrain from telling an applicant, “you are ineligible for EOF.”
- Generalized statements can lead applicants to believe that they are ineligible for EOF (statewide), which may be inaccurate.

Applicants should be encouraged to look at all NJ institutions that have an EOF program if they are unable to be admitted into your EOF campus program. Especially if they are actively seeking admission into an EOF campus program (independent of institutional choice).

# Allocation Based Enrollment Approach

**EOF does not use a "slot" based enrollment approach.**

Slot based enrollment reflects a program that supports a pre-determined number of students in a program.

**EOF uses an "allocation" based enrollment approach.**

Allocation based enrollment reflects a program that supports as many students as possible based on the program's available resources.

The total number of students in the program can be impacted by the number of students who receive a maximum award.

The allocation model allows for enrollment to be driven via the exhaustion of the program's available allocation.

# EOF Eligibility

# Student Eligibility

To be initially eligible for an EOF undergraduate Article III grant, a student must demonstrate that they:

1. Have a high school diploma or GED.

2. Meets N.J.A.C. 9A:9-2.2 and 2.3, which are the Tuition Aid Grant and Garden State Scholarship programs' rules governing residency and noncitizens and resident aliens, respectively.

3. Meets the financial criteria established in N.J.A.C. 9A:11-2.3.

4. Is admitted to and intends full-time enrollment and matriculation in a curriculum leading to an undergraduate degree or certificate at an institution participating in the Fund.

- The Fund is not intended for a student whose primary educational goal is to complete an adult basic education curriculum or attain language proficiency.
- Degree and certificate programs shall require a minimum of 24 semester hours or the equivalent and be at least one academic year in duration.

Regulation: 9A:11-2.2

# EOF – Undergraduate Student Eligibility

- Demonstrate an educationally and economically disadvantaged background
- Be a New Jersey resident 12 consecutive months prior to receiving the award
- Apply and be accepted to a participating New Jersey college or university
- Meet the academic criteria as set by the institution of choice*
- File a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the New Jersey Alternative Financial Aid Application
- Gross Income and Assets must fall within the EOF financial eligibility range*

2024-2025 EOF Income Eligibility Scale with Asset Cap Calculation

| Applicants with a Household Size of | Gross Income (Not to Exceed) | Max. Asset Cap (Not to Exceed) |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | $29,160 | $5,832 |
| 2 | $39,440 | $7,888 |
| 3 | $49,720 | $9,944 |
| 4 | $60,000 | $12,000 |
| 5 | $70,280 | $14,056 |
| 6 | $80,560 | $16,112 |
| 7 | $90,840 | $18,168 |
| 8 | $101,120 | $20,224 |
| *** | Add $10,280 for each additional family member | Add $2,056 for each additional family member |

# EOF Funding Priorities

Based on an institution's annual academic year EOF Article III appropriation, student grant funds shall be awarded to eligible students in the following priority order:

1. Renewal students who were funded during the **PREVIOUS** academic year;
2. First-time, full-time freshmen;
3. Students that have earned 24 or more college credits while in high school or who participated in a dual enrollment program and have earned an associate's degree as part of their high school graduation requirements and have no prior history of EOF funding support;
4. EOF transfer students who received an EOF student grant at their previous institution, in the preceding academic year;
5. Renewal students readmitted or returning who did not receive funding the prior academic year; and
6. Eligible students who do not fall into any of the other four categories listed above.

(Note: These are not admission priorities. Beyond the financial and residential requirements outlined within the EOF regulations, all participating institutions must also make publicly available its institution-based admission requirements.)

# Initial Article III Student Grants

- Beginning the Spring 2024 term, participating institutions may **use NJFAMS to verify** student financial eligibility for any undergraduate student admitted into the EOF.
  - The institution must continue to have a copy of the appropriate financial documentation for any student admitted during the Fall 2023 term (and prior).
- Any student who is a participant in the Fund shall **provide the required documentation to verify their financial eligibility, if requested** by the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education/EOF Central Office or the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority.

# Eligibility Limitations

Students shall not receive assistance under the programs administered by the Board if they owe a refund on a grant or scholarship previously received from a State or Federal program through any institution or are in default on any loan made under any State or Federal student financial assistance program at any institution.

- Students may receive State financial assistance if they make satisfactory repayment arrangements with the appropriate office.

Students attending out-of-State institutions are not eligible for Article III undergraduate grants.

# Automatically Eligible

The following students are automatically eligible for EOF eligibility consideration but must meet the financial guidelines to qualify for the ability to receive an EOF Article III grant:

- **NJ GEAR UP Participant**
- **NJ College Bound Participant**
- **TRIO Program Participant**

If a NJ GEAR UP, NJ College Bound or TRIO student does not meet the EOF financial criteria, they are eligible to be admitted and participate in the EOF Pre-First year summer program.

- Note: During the academic year, they can only receive support services.
- They cannot be given an Art. III UG grant.
- This student would be considered “Non-Funded.”

# Dual Enrollment or Advanced College Prep Programs

EOF program applicants who have earned 24 or more college credits while in high school or earned an associate's degree as part of their high school graduation requirements are eligible for participation in the pre-first year summer program.

It is important to note that per 9A:11.2.8, if a student has earned an Associate's degree, they are ineligible to receive EOF funding to obtain another Associate's degree or certificate.

These students must be considered for the EOF program based on the EOF Article III, student grant funding priorities outlined at N.J.A.C. 9A:11-6.1(h), and if they meet the eligibility requirements set forth at N.J.A.C. 9A:11-2.2 and 2.3.

Regulation: 9A:11-5.4(c)

# NJ Dreamers

NJ Dreamer applicants must meet all the requirements of P.L. 2018, c. 12 to qualify for state aid:

1) Attended a New Jersey high school for at least three years
2) Graduated from a New Jersey high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma in New Jersey
3) Prior to April 2022 only: registered for selective service, if required by federal law
4) In the case of a person without lawful immigration status, are able to file an affidavit stating that they have filed an application to legalize their immigration status or will file an application as soon as they are eligible to do so
5) Students who hold a T or U visa who are not eligible non-citizens must meet the requirements of P.L. 2018, c. 12.

# EOF Eligibility: Part-time

The number of part-time payments is cumulative.

Max # of part-time payments in pursuit of an associate degree = 3 payments

Max # of part-time payments in pursuit of a baccalaureate degree = 4 payments

Institutions may award Article III part-time grants to no more than 10% of their total EOF funded population in any given semester (9A:11-2.9(e)).

# Duration of Eligibility

- The number of semesters of Article III grant payment is cumulative.
- EOF students shall be eligible for no more than **12 semesters of UG payment over the course of their entire undergraduate career.**
  - Exception: Students enrolled in a five-year undergraduate course of study at a senior institution. These students are eligible for an additional 2 semesters upon written formal request and approval from the EOF Executive Director.
  - Under no circumstances shall a student receive more than 14 semesters of Article III Undergraduate payments to earn a baccalaureate degree).
- Students enrolled in a county college who are in pursuit of an **associate's degree** may receive a maximum of **8 semester**s of Article III Undergraduate payments.
- Students are ineligible to receive EOF funding support to earn a degree at a level they have already achieved.
- An initial Article III undergraduate grant **cannot** be given to a student in the **last two semester of baccalaureate study**, nor shall a student receive an **initial Article III grant during the winter**.

# EOF Eligibility: Non-Funded Students

A student who receives Article III academic year grant funds is classified as **FUNDED** student.

A student who received an academic year Article III Grant award during a previous academic year, but is now financially ineligible can only be supported as a **NON-FUNDED** student.

NJ GEAR UP, NJ College Bound, and TRIO students who are not financially eligible may also be classified as **NON-FUNDED.**

A student who has received an Academic Year Article III grant in a previous semester and remains financially eligible may be supported as a **NON-FUNDED** student (at the program's discretion) due to not adhering to program requirements.

All other students who do not meet the financial criteria to receive an Initial grant are ineligible for EOF and may not be supported as a non-funded student.

# EOF Financial Eligibility Notables

- A **dependent student's** income and assets shall not be considered in the gross household income.
- Eligibility for TAG should not be automatically associated with eligibility for EOF.
- An applicant whose household receives Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and/or Supplemental Social Security Income (SSI) as the sole means of support are eligible regardless of the amount of such support.
- In determining financial eligibility for an Article III student grant, separation or divorce, or the disability or death of a wage earner for the academic year for which eligibility is being determined, with a concomitant decrease in household income below the EOF Income Eligibility Scale, does not automatically satisfy the financial eligibility requirement.
- If an applicant believes that their reported household income and/or assets are not accurately reflective of their current financial profile, they will need to work with the institution's financial aid office and HESAA to rectify this matter. OSHE/EOF does not make or review any adjustment appeals.

# NJFAMS Verification

# Reminder - EOF New Jersey Financial Aid Management System (NJFAMS) Portal Access

- The EOF NJFAMS Portal is the primary means for all EOF UG AY campus programs to manage your EOF UG AY program roster.
- EOF campus program directors should be aware of who has access to the EOF NJFAMS portal for your institution.
- Access may be granted in two forms: 1) View Only or 2) Edit capabilities
- When a staff member who has been granted access to the EOF NJFAMS portal leaves their position/institution, it is the responsibility of the EOF campus program director to inform the OSHE/EOF Central Office of the need to remove the staff member's access. This is also the case even if the staff member does not work directly in your office.
- EOF campus directors who need an up-to-date list of who has EOF NJFAMS portal access at your institution should contact either your EOF program liaison or the EOF Executive Director.

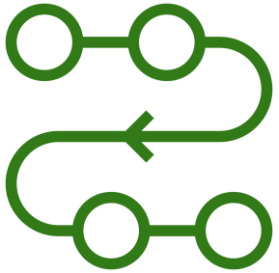
# NJFAMS Verification

When reviewing a student in NJFAMS, it is important to verify the student's eligibility information and ineligibility reason(s).

Not all ineligibility reasons require an override by OSHE/EOF. Some may be managed by the campus program. (i.e. EOF Not Approved at this Campus).

There are some ineligibility reasons that OSHE/EOF can override and there are some that we cannot.

As the parameters for EOF eligibility continue to change, it is important to be aware of this information so that the student can be processed accordingly.



To properly complete the Discretionary/Non-Funded Appeal form, you must know how to properly navigate NJFAMS.

# Verification of Financial Eligibility

- As noted earlier, to be eligible for an undergraduate EOF grant, a student must demonstrate a history of poverty, which generally includes documented, **long-term economic hardship of the family.**
- Students must be reviewed for eligibility**. Institutions may use NJFAMS data for household size, annual income, and sources of income and assets.**
- For dependent students – programs must only review the parent(s) or guardian(s) financial information. Do not include the student/student spouse's financial information.
- For independent students – programs must only review the student and student spouse's financial information. Do not include the parent(s)/guardian(s).
- Annually, programs are responsible for reviewing the continued eligibility of all awarded students (initials and renewals).

# EOF Rosters

Look for eligible Initials and Renewals who were not on the program's roster as of the Fall term of the previous Academic Year. Also a source to find financially eligible students who may already be enrolled at your school.

Renewal students who appeared on a program's roster during the Fall term of the previous Academic Year & who remain eligible should appear here.

Ineligible students BUT EOF discretionary & some Non-funded eligible students may appear here.

Recommended roster to use to locate any student.

There is action you must take for the rosters in the Certification Rosters section. The rosters in the Informational Rosters section are for reference and reporting purposes.

School Program: <Choose One>

Term: <Choose One>

SSN:

First Name:

Last Name:

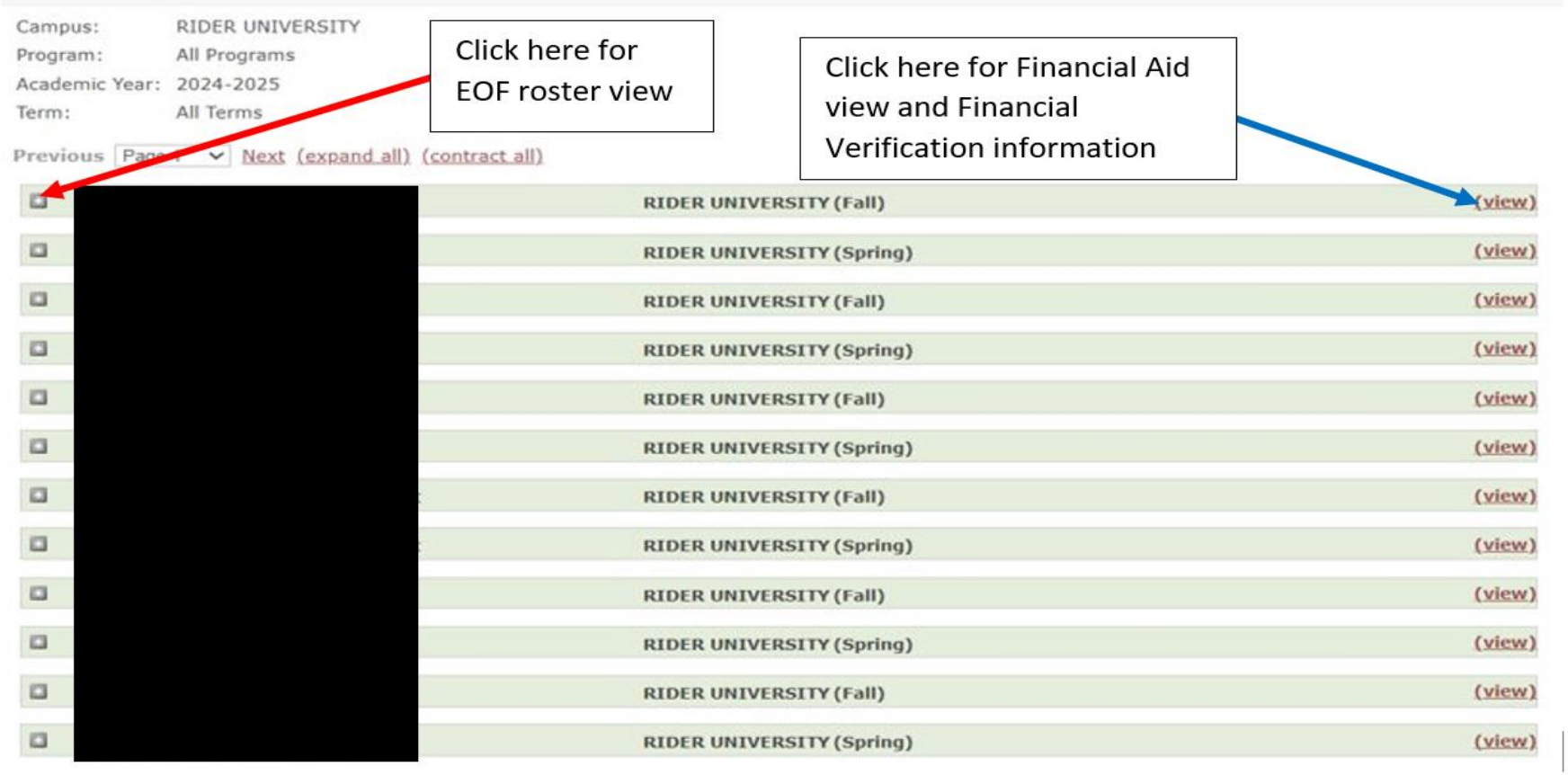
Student ID:

**EOF Approval Rosters - Action Required**

| | View and Print (PDF) | Approve Online | Download File (CSV) |
|---|---|---|---|
| EOF Approval | PDF | Online | Download |

**Informational Rosters**

| | View and Print (PDF) | View Online | Download File (CSV) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Approved and Eligible | PDF | Online | Download |
| State Verification Not Complete | PDF | Online | Download |
| Approved, Eligible and Certified | PDF | Online | Download |
| Certified and Not Paid | PDF | Online | Download |
| Paid | PDF | Online | Download |
| Refund Due | PDF | Online | Download |
| Ineligible | PDF | Online | Download |
| Incomplete | PDF | Online | Download |
| All Students | PDF | Online | Download |


Campus: RIDER UNIVERSITY
Program: All Programs
Academic Year: 2024-2025
Term: All Terms
Previous Page 1 Next (expand all) (contract all)
Click here for EOF roster view
Click here for Financial Aid view and Financial Verification information
[redacted]
RIDER UNIVERSITY (Fall) (view)
RIDER UNIVERSITY (Spring) (view)
RIDER UNIVERSITY (Fall) (view)
RIDER UNIVERSITY (Spring) (view)
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RIDER UNIVERSITY (Spring) (view)
RIDER UNIVERSITY (Fall) (view)
RIDER UNIVERSITY (Spring) (view)

# Rosters

# Verification of ineligibility reason(s)

## EOF roster view:

Grade Level: First year Undergraduate (freshman)
Dependency Status: Dependent
Previous College:
Term of First Entry:
Last Funded:

EOF Full-time Awards: 0
EOF Part-time Awards: 0
TAG Full-time Awards: 0
TAG Part-time Awards: 0
Tax Verification Indicator:

Housing Status: <Choose One>
Admission Type: <Choose One>
Ethnicity: <Choose One>
Gender: <Choose One>
Discretionary/Special Conditions: <Choose One>
Historical Poverty Code: <Choose One>
School Program: <Choose One>
EOF Enrollment Status: <Choose One>
EOF Approved: <Choose One>

| Status | Certification Codes | Program | EOF Term Amount | Term Award | Term Paid | Annual Award |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | EOF | 0 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| | | TAG | | $4,539.00 | $0.00 | $9,078.00 |

Save

Check ineligibility reason by clicking on the red "x".

## Financial Aid side:

General Information — DOB: 3/4/1955

Academic Period Information

Add Campus | Add Program | Award Student | Override Student Award | Eligibility Override

On Hold No | Save Hold Status

Expand All

MIDDLESEX COLLEGE

Expand All

Add Term...

Annual Award Summary:

| Program | Major | Annual Award | Certified to Date | Paid to Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| CCOG | | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| EOF | | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| TAG | | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| Summer TAG | | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| TOTAL Awards | | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |

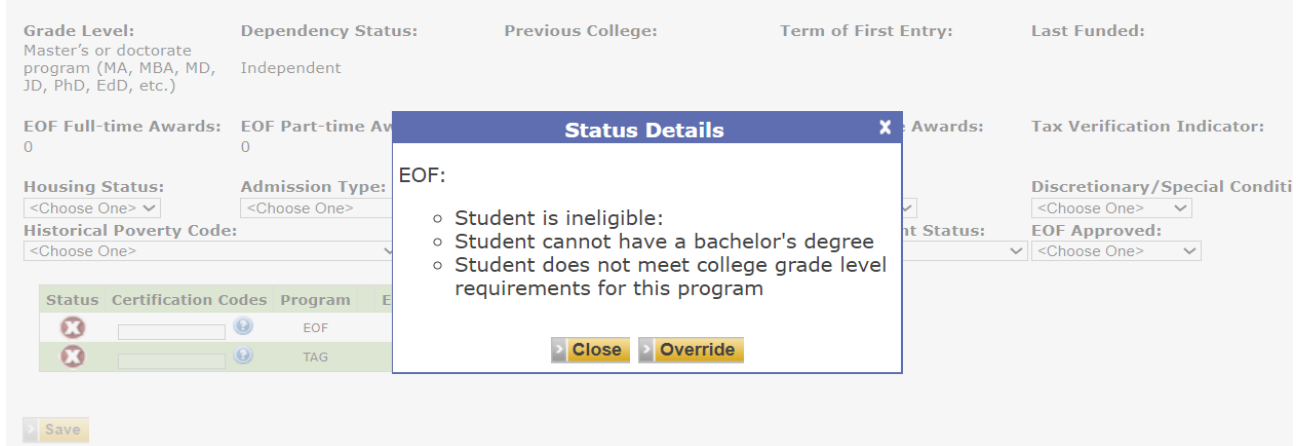
Fall of 2024-2025 Academic Year

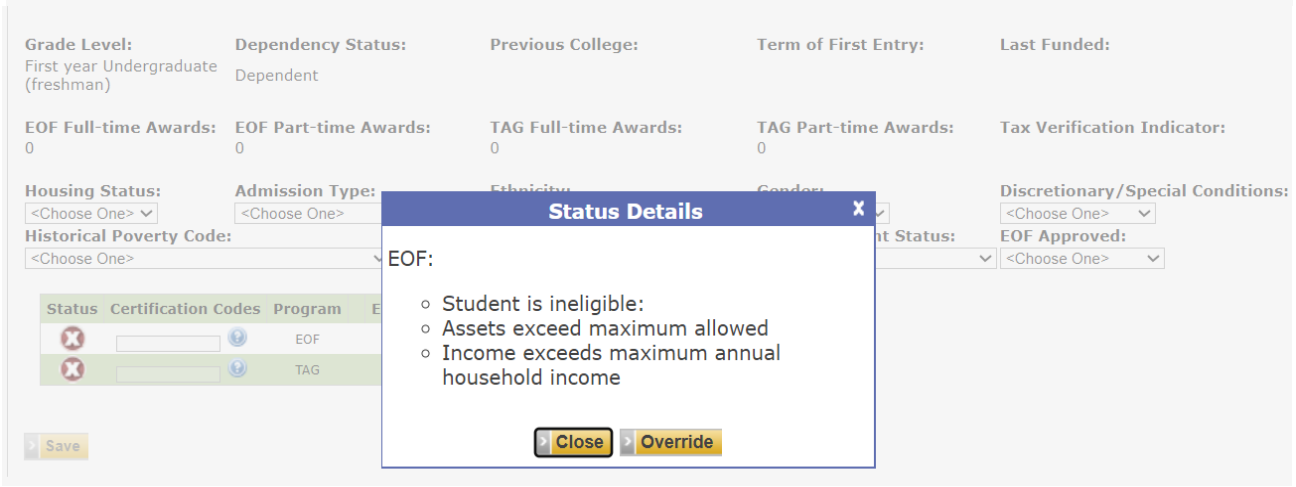
Grade Level: First year Undergraduate (freshman)
Enrollment Status: Full-time
SAP: Yes
Prior BA: No
Prior AA: No
Campus ID:
ESL/Remedial: No
Graduating This Term: No
Type of Leave: None
Course of Study: Other
Transfer Orders Verified: <Choose One>
Dependency Status:
NJEI: 109330
3 + 1 Program: No
Bridge Year Program: No
GSG: No
Projected Year Change:
Tax Verification Indicator:
Pell Grant Received: $
Institutional/Other Aid Received: $
All State Aid Received: $
Term Credits:

| Status | Certification Codes | Program | New Term Amount | Term Award | Term Paid | Annual Award | Spring 2020 Payment Waiver |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | CCOG | | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | No |
| | | EOF | | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | No |
| | | TAG | | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 | No |

Save

# Verification of ineligibility reason(s)



# NJFAMS Financial Verification (Only available via Financial Aid side)

**General Information:** provides basic student information (address, email)

**Academic Period Information:** section that allows the Financial Ai Office to code data such as enrollment (credits must match "EOF Enrollment Status" credits for certification), enter TAG/CCOG/GSC award amounts, etc.), certify your roster, etc.

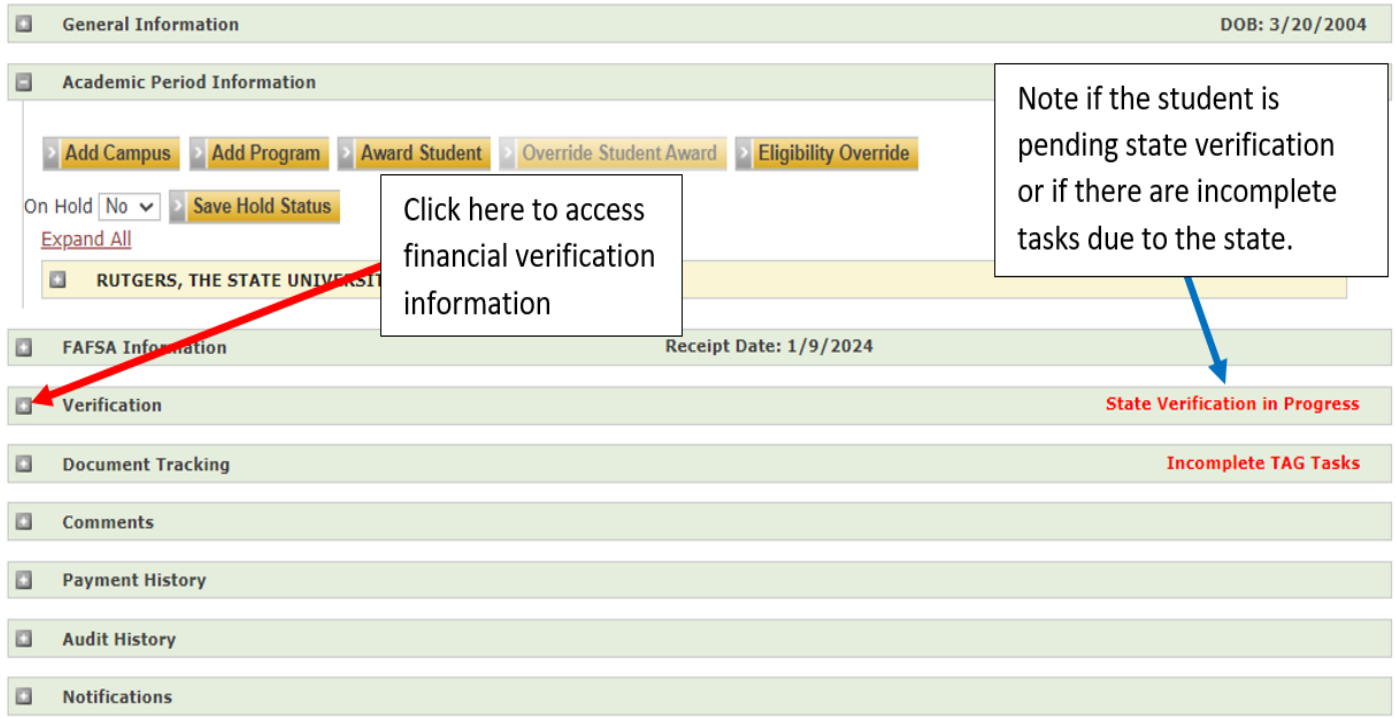
**FAFSA Information:** Shows date of FAFSA submission. You can access ISIR for family size

**Verification:** ***THIS IS WHERE YOU CHECK EOF ELIGIBILITY.*** view the financial information needed to complete the Discretionary/Non-Funded appeal form

**Document Tracking:** Shows documents are that are missing or have been submitted to HESAA for verification

**Payment History:** Shows a history of EOF and TAG payments

**Notifications:** Allows you to view notifications sent to student from HESAA




***** Please note: If the student has been selected by the State for verification, you can not submit an appeal for them until this process has been completed. *****

# NJFAMS Overview: New Verification Sections

| | Student (and Spouse) | | Parent(s) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | FAFSA | Agency Update | FAFSA | Agency Update |
| **Federal Tax Information (FTIM) - CUI//SP-TAX** | | | | |
| Returned Tax Year (Student/Parent) | 2022 | | 2022 | |
| Returned Tax Year (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Filing status code (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | Head of household | <Choose One> |
| Filing status code (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Adjusted Gross Income (Student/Parent) | | | 15768 | |
| Adjusted Gross Income (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Number of exemptions (Student/Parent) | | | 2 | |
| Number of exemptions (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Number of dependents (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| Number of dependents (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Total income earned amount (Student/Parent) | | | 15768 | |
| Total income earned amount (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Total tax paid amount (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| Total tax paid amount (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Untaxed IRA distributions (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| Untaxed IRA distributions (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| IRA deductible and payments (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| IRA deductible and payments (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Tax exempt interest (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| Tax exempt interest (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Untaxed pensions amount (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| Untaxed pensions amount (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Schedule C net profit/loss (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| Schedule C net profit/loss (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Filed Schedule C? (Student/Parent) | No | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Filed Schedule C? (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | No | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule A indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule A indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule B indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule B indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule D indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule D indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule E indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule E indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule F indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule F indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule H indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule H indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| IRS response code (Student/Parent) | 214-No Return on File | | 200-Successful Request | |
| IRS response code (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |

Student may have submitted FAFSA in 2 ways:

- **FTIM: Federal Tax Information** pulled from IRS retrieval tool *left image)*
- **Self-Reported Information** Student put in values on FAFSA manually, as done in the past *(right image)*

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Schedule H indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule H indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| IRS response code (Student/Parent) | 214-No Return on File | | 214-No Return on File | |
| IRS response code (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | 214-No Return on File | |
| **Self-Reported Information** | | | | |
| Signature (Student/Parent) | Signed | <Choose One> | Signed | <Choose One> |
| Signature (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | Signed | <Choose One> |
| Marital Status | Single (Never married) | | Married (not separated) | |
| Marital Status Date | | | | |
| Filed 1040 or 1040NR (Student/Parent) | No | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Filed 1040 or 1040NR (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Filed Non-U.S. Tax Return (Student/Parent) | No | <Choose One> | 6 | <Choose One> |
| Filed Non-U.S. Tax Return (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | 6 | <Choose One> |
| Tax Return Filing Status | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Tax Return Filing Status (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Filed Schedule A, B, D, E, F or H? (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Filed Schedule A, B, D, E, F or H? (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule C amount (Student/Parent) | | | | |
| Schedule C amount (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Filed Schedule C? (Student/Parent) | No | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Filed Schedule C? (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | No | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Adjusted Gross Income (Student/Parent) * | | | | |
| Adjusted Gross Income (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) * | | | | |
| U.S. Income Tax Paid (Student/Parent) | | | | |
| U.S. Income Tax Paid (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Income Earned from Work (Student/Parent) | | | | |
| Income Earned from Work (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Updated Family Size | | | 8 | |
| Number in College | | | 1 | |
| NJEI Simplified Needs Test | | <Choose One> | Yes | <Choose One> |

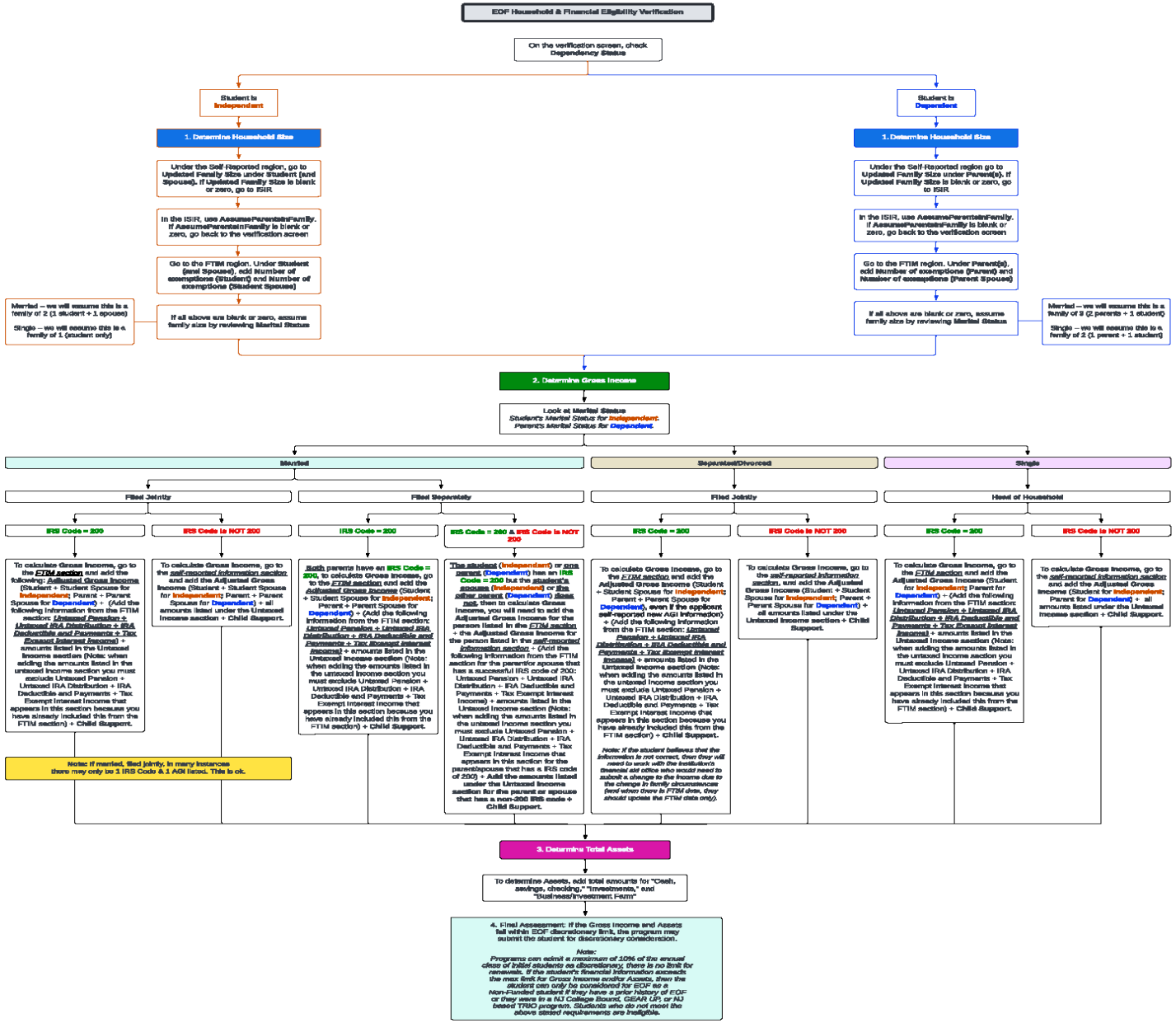
NEW!

- In FTIM section, IRS response code matters for income calculations
  - 200: Use **FTIM** data
  - 214/any non-200 number/or blank: Use **Self-Reported Information**
- 2 rows for data points
  - "**Student/Parent**" and "**Student Spouse/Parent Spouse**" indicates which column is reference point, based on dependency status

Due to the change in the FASFA for AY 2024-2025, the process to determine household size and financial eligibility now may require several additional steps.

The following flow diagram has been created to provide Institutions/EOF campus programs with a visual representation of the process that must be followed to properly determine household size and EOF financial eligibility.

For additional information, please see EOF NJFAMS Training: [New Jersey Financial Aid Management System (NJFAMS)](#).



# NJFAMS Payment History

To locate the number of EOF payments a student has received, you can either view this information from the EOF roster or from the “Payment History” tab from the financial aid view.

## EOF Roster:

| Grade Level: | Dependency Status: | Previous College: | Term of Fir |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2nd year/sophomore | Independent | PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | Fall 2021-20 |

| EOF Full-time Awards: | EOF Part-time Awards: | TAG Full-time Awards: | TAG Part-ti |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 0 | 7 | 0 |

| Housing Status: | Admission Type: | Ethnicity: | Gender: |
|---|---|---|---|
| Commuter | EOF Renewal | Asian American | Female |

| Historical Poverty Code: | School Program: | EOF Enrollr |
|---|---|---|
| Attended/graduated from DFG A/B School District | <Choose One> | Full-time > 11 |

| Status | Certification Codes | Program | EOF Term Amount | Term Award | Term Paid | Annual Award |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | EOF | 800 | $800.00 | $0.00 | $800.00 |
| | | TAG | | $1,200.00 | $0.00 | $2,400.00 |

## Financial Aid view:

Payment History

**Legacy Points (Prior to 11-12)**

| Program | Legacy Points |
|---|---|
| CCOG | 0 |
| EOF | 0 |
| TAG | 0 |

**GSG Reported:**

Total Terms GSG Reported: 0

First Term GSG Reported: N/A

**Enrollment-based awards:**

| Institution Name | Program | Payment Request Date | Process Payment Date | Process Payment Amount | Year | Term | Check Date | Check Number | Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | TAG | 12/05/2022 | 12/20/2022 | $1,200.00 | 2022-2023 | Fall | | | 0.50 |
| PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | EOF | 11/14/2022 | 12/19/2022 | $800.00 | 2022-2023 | Fall | | | 0.50 |
| PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | TAG | 03/04/2022 | 04/11/2022 | $1,009.00 | 2021-2022 | Spring | | | 0.50 |
| PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | EOF | 03/04/2022 | 03/20/2022 | $650.00 | 2021-2022 | Spring | | | 0.50 |
| PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | EOF | 10/28/2021 | 12/15/2021 | $650.00 | 2021-2022 | Fall | | | 0.50 |
| PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | TAG | 10/15/2021 | 11/15/2021 | $1,009.00 | 2021-2022 | Fall | | | 0.50 |
| PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | TAG | 02/25/2021 | 03/09/2021 | $1,317.00 | 2020-2021 | Spring | | | 0.50 |
| PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | TAG | 10/16/2020 | 10/20/2020 | $1,317.00 | 2020-2021 | Fall | | | 0.50 |
| PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | TAG | 02/26/2020 | 03/09/2020 | $1,317.00 | 2019-2020 | Spring | | | 0.50 |
| PASSAIC COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE | TAG | 10/07/2019 | 10/28/2019 | $1,317.00 | 2019-2020 | Fall | | | 0.50 |

**Program Points Totals**

| Program | Total Points |
|---|---|
| CCOG | 0 |
| EOF | 1.5 |
| TAG | 3.5 |

# Important Reminders

- Read EOF Regulations and apply them correctly.
- Review all of the information in NJFAMS (i.e. ineligibility reasons, verification information, payment history, etc.).
- Read the information within NJFAMS carefully and put the correct information on the appeal form.
- Provide the correct HESAA ID# and fill out the appeal form completely.
- Stay on top of your program roster throughout the semester and submit your appeals early and regularly to avoid missing or forgetting a student or inaccurately awarding a student in NJFAMS.

# Discretionary/ Non-funded Appeals

# Discretionary Scale

- The EOF campus administrator/director has the discretion to admit **up to 10% of the annual class of <u>initial students</u>** in the Discretionary Range
  - These students may have a family income that is 281% above Federal poverty guidelines, and have assets that do not exceed 20% of the maximum income allowance per household size, as published annually by the Federal government.
  - Discretionary admit students shall also meet all eligibility provisions of N.J.A.C. 9A:11-2.2

- If an applicant's reported household income and assets exceeds the maximum allowable limit for discretionary consideration, then by regulation, the student is financially ineligible to receive an EOF grant award.

**2024-2025 EOF FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY SCALE WITH ASSET CAP CALCULATION**

| Household Size | Gross Income (Not to Exceed) | Max. Asset Cap (Not to Exceed) |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | $29,160 | $5,832 |
| 2 | $39,440 | $7,888 |
| 3 | $49,720 | $9,944 |
| 4 | $60,000 | $12,000 |
| 5 | $70,280 | $14,056 |
| 6 | $80,560 | $16,112 |
| 7 | $90,840 | $18,168 |
| 8 | $101,120 | $20,224 |
| *** | Add $10,280 for each additional family member | Add $2,056 for each additional family member |

**2024-2025 EOF MAXIMUM FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY FOR DISCRETIONARY STUDENTS**

| Household Size | Gross Income (Not to Exceed) | Max. Asset Cap (Not to Exceed) |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | $40,970 | $8,194 |
| 2 | $55,413 | $11,083 |
| 3 | $69,857 | $13,971 |
| 4 | $84,300 | $16,860 |
| 5 | $98,743 | $19,749 |
| 6 | $113,187 | $22,637 |
| 7 | $127,630 | $25,526 |
| 8 | $142,074 | $28,415 |
| *** | Add $14,443 for each additional family member | Add $2,889 for each additional family member |

# Non-Funded Appeals

| Status | Certification Codes | Program | EOF Term Amount | Term Award | Term Paid | Annual Award |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | EOF | 0 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| | | TAG | | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |

- **Non-Funded appeals** should only be submitted for students who appear as ineligible in NJFAMS. If the student appears in “Qualified” or “Awarded” status and has a history of receiving an EOF Article III undergraduate grant, then the program does not have to include this student on the Non-Funded appeal form.

# APPEAL FORM

***Old form:***

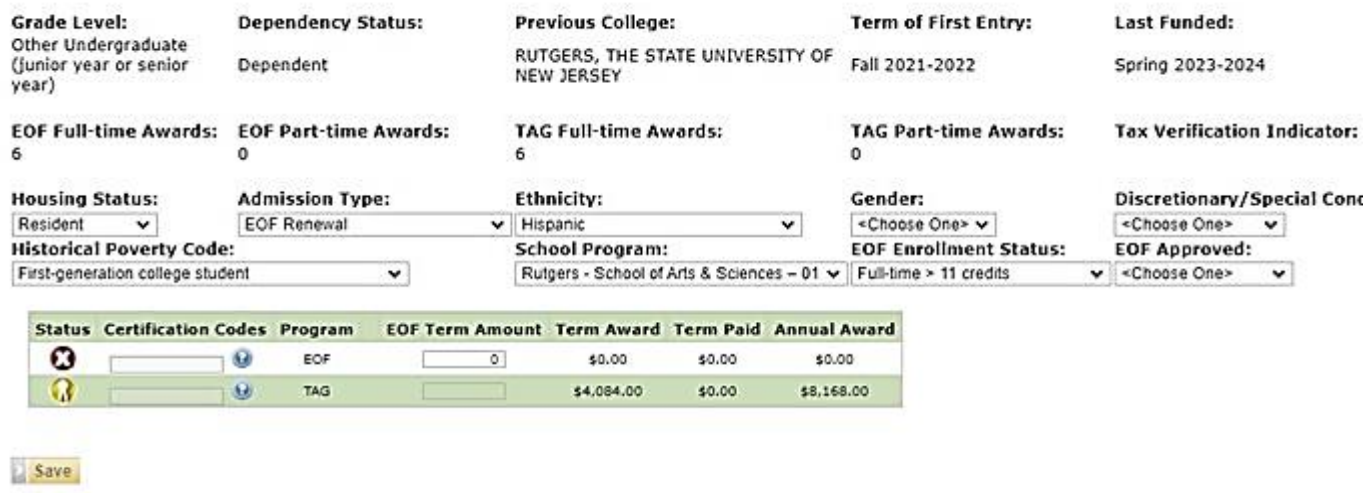
| NJHESAA ID# | Student First Name | Student Last Name | City/Town of Residence (NJ ONLY) | Year in College | Enrollment Status | Dependency Status | # in household | Adjusted Gross Income ($) | Untaxed Income ($) | Total Gross Income (Adjusted Gross Income + Untaxed Income) ($) | Total Assets ($) | # of previous EOF Full-time Awards | # of previous EOF Part-time Awards | Requesting student to be coded as non-funded | Did the student participate in the NJ GEAR UP, College Bound Program, TRIO program? (Y/N) | Action Taken (EOF CENTRAL STAFF ONLY) | Comments (EOF CENTRAL STAFF ONLY) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

***New form:***

| HESAA ID# | First Name | Last Name | Year in College | Enrollment Status | Dependency Status | # in household | Marital Status | Adjusted Gross Income Student/ Parent ($) | Adjusted Gross Income Student Spouse/ Parent Spouse ($) | FTIM Section: Untaxed Pension Only include this information if the IRS Response Code is 200 | FTIM Section: Untaxed IRA Distribution Only include this information if the IRS Response Code is 200 | FTIM Section: IRA Deductible and Payments Only include this information if the IRS Response Code is 200 | FTIM Section: Tax Exempt Interest Income Only include this information if the IRS Response Code is 200 | Untaxed Income Section ($) (Note: If IRS Code is 200, the amounts listed for the areas highlighted columns L-0 on this form may be excluded from this total.) | Child Support | Total Gross Income (Adjusted Gross Income + Untaxed Income) ($) | Total Assets ($) | # of previous EOF Full-time Awards | # of previous EOF Part-time Awards | Requesting student to be coded as non-funded (Y/N) | Did the student participate in the NJ GEAR UP, College Bound,TRIO program? (Y/N) | Action Taken (EOF CENTRAL STAFF ONLY) | Comments (EOF CENTRAL STAFF ONLY) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Additional columns have been added to help clarify how Total Gross Income is calculated.

# Example: Filling in the Appeal Form



| Grade Level: | Dependency Status: | Previous College: | Term of First Entry: | Last Funded: |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Other Undergraduate (junior year or senior year) | Dependent | RUTGERS, THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW JERSEY | Fall 2021-2022 | Spring 2023-2024 |

| EOF Full-time Awards: | EOF Part-time Awards: | TAG Full-time Awards: | TAG Part-time Awards: | Tax Verification Indicator: |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 0 | 6 | 0 | |

| Housing Status: | Admission Type: | Ethnicity: | Gender: | Discretionary/Special Conc |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Resident | EOF Renewal | Hispanic | <Choose One> | <Choose One> |

| Historical Poverty Code: | School Program: | EOF Enrollment Status: | EOF Approved: |
|---|---|---|---|
| First-generation college student | Rutgers - School of Arts & Sciences – 01 | Full-time > 11 credits | <Choose One> |

| Status | Certification Codes | Program | EOF Term Amount | Term Award | Term Paid | Annual Award |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | EOF | 0 | $0.00 | $0.00 | $0.00 |
| | | TAG | | $4,084.00 | $0.00 | $8,168.00 |

Save

1) Fill out all demographic data on the EOF Portal Screen before submitting your appeal.
2) Non-funded students must be coded as "Non-funded" in Admission Type
3) Use the portal to identify:
   - Year in college
   - Enrollment status (must match Financial Aid)
   - Number of full-time/part-time payments

| | Student (and Spouse) | | Parent(s) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | FAFSA | Agency Update | FAFSA | Agency Update |
| **Federal Tax Information (FTIM) - CUI//SP-TAX** | | | | |
| Returned Tax Year (Student/Parent) | 2022 | | 2022 | |
| Returned Tax Year (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Filing status code (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | Head of household | <Choose One> |
| Filing status code (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Adjusted Gross Income (Student/Parent) | | | 32188 | |
| Adjusted Gross Income (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Number of exemptions (Student/Parent) | | | 3 | |
| Number of exemptions (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Number of dependents (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| Number of dependents (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Total income earned amount (Student/Parent) | | | 32188 | |
| Total income earned amount (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Total tax paid amount (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| Total tax paid amount (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Untaxed IRA distributions (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| Untaxed IRA distributions (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| IRA deductible and payments (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| IRA deductible and payments (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Tax exempt interest (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| Tax exempt interest (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Untaxed pensions amount (Student/Parent) | | | 18055 | |
| Untaxed pensions amount (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Schedule C net profit/loss (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| Schedule C net profit/loss (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Filed Schedule C? (Student/Parent) | No | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Filed Schedule C? (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | No | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule A indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule A indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule B indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule B indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule D indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule D indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule E indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule E indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule F indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule F indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule H indicator (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Schedule H indicator (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| IRS response code (Student/Parent) | 214-No Return on File | | 200-Successful Request | |
| IRS response code (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| IRS response code (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| **Self-Reported Information** | | | | |
| Signature (Student/Parent) | Signed | <Choose One> | Signed | <Choose One> |
| Signature (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Marital Status | Single (Never married) | | Separated | |
| Marital Status Date | | | | |
| Filed 1040 or 1040NR (Student/Parent) | No | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Filed 1040 or 1040NR (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Filed Non-U.S. Tax Return (Student/Parent) | No | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Filed Non-U.S. Tax Return (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Tax Return Filing Status | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Tax Return Filing Status (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Filed Schedule A, B, D, E, F or H? (Student/Parent) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Filed Schedule A, B, D, E, F or H? (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | <Choose One> | | <Choose One> |
| Schedule C amount (Student/Parent) | | | | |
| Schedule C amount (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Filed Schedule C? (Student/Parent) | No | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Filed Schedule C? (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | No | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Adjusted Gross Income (Student/Parent) * | | | | |
| Adjusted Gross Income (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) * | | | | |
| U.S. Income Tax Paid (Student/Parent) | | | | |
| U.S. Income Tax Paid (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Income Earned from Work (Student/Parent) | | | | |
| Income Earned from Work (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Updated Family Size | | | | |
| Number in College | | | 2 | |
| N201 Simplified Needs Test | | <Choose One> | Yes | <Choose One> |
| **Federal Benefit Programs** | | | | |
| Received Medicaid | No | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Received Supplemental Security Income | No | | No | |
| Received Federal Housing Assistance | No | <Choose One> | No | <Choose One> |
| Received SNAP | No | | No | |
| TANF Benefits | No | | No | |
| WIC Benefits | No | | No | |
| **Untaxed Income** | | | | |
| Deductible Payments to IRA, Keogh, Other (Student/Parent) | | | | |
| Deductible Payments to IRA, Keogh, Other (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Tax exempt interest income (Student/Parent) | | | | |
| Tax exempt interest income (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Untaxed portions of IRA distributions (Student/Parent) | | | | |
| Untaxed portions of IRA distributions (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Untaxed portions of pensions (Student/Parent) | | | | |
| Untaxed portions of pensions (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| Foreign Earned Income Exclusion (Student/Parent) | | | 0 | |
| Foreign Earned Income Exclusion (Student Spouse/Parent Spouse) | | | | |
| **Child Support** | | | | |
| Child support received | | | | |
| **Assets** | | | | |
| Cash, savings, checking | Curr Yr: Prior Yr: 100 | | Curr Yr: Prior Yr: 500 | |
| Investments | Curr Yr: Prior Yr: 0 | | Curr Yr: Prior Yr: 0 | |
| Business/Investment Farm | Curr Yr: Prior Yr: 0 | | Curr Yr: Prior Yr: 0 | |

# Common ineligibility codes that EOF Central cannot override

- If a student's residency or citizenship status has not been properly confirmed, the EOF Central Office cannot override this.
- If the student fails to file their FAFSA (or NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application) by the State deadline or fails to submit the required verification documents as requested to the State by any identified deadlines, the student will be ineligible for EOF. (This also means that the student is ineligible to be considered as a Non-Funded student.)

**Status Details** X

EOF:

- Student is ineligible:
- Assets exceed maximum allowed
- Income exceeds maximum annual household income
- Items on To-Do list not completed by deadline date
- Student's citizenship status not confirmed by DHS

# Submission Requirements

- Discretionary and Non-Funded appeals must be submitted using the updated form to your EOF program liaison with a CC to EOF Executive Director, Dr. Hasani Carter.
- Submit your appeals throughout the semester and before the Fall/Spring deadlines. Submit your appeal forms smaller batches (i.e. <25 students per submission).
- Programs must continue to monitor your compliance with the 10% discretionary rule for initials. (Please remember that an initial is any student who is receiving their 1st EOF academic year grant. This may include transfer students.)
- Programs are responsible for managing the accuracy of their roster.
- Due to staffing capacity, the OSHE/EOF Central Office is requesting for programs to be mindful of your roster appeal submission efforts.
- Identify Discretionary, Non-funded, SAP students early.
- Due to the volume of appeals received, please note that it may take a week or more for our office to review and process a program's appeal.

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF HIGHER EDUCATION**
**EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (EOF)**
**STUDENT SELECTION, AWARDING, & PAYMENT PROCESSING CALENDAR**
**FOR THE 2024-2025 ACADEMIC YEAR****

**Selection, awarding, certifying and requesting payment for EOF students is a process that requires the involvement of both the EOF campus program and their respective institution's financial aid office.**

| EOF Campus Programs<br>Selecting and Awarding Students<br>(This process is facilitated by the Campus EOF program. They are responsible for placing students on the EOF "Approved & Eligible Roster" within the NJFAMS EOF Portal) | | |
|---|---|---|
| **EOF Central Roster Processing Schedule:**<br>(The following dates are when programs must submit the EOF Roster Processing sheet to the EOF Central Office to have their Awarded students moved from "Qualified" to "Awarded" Status. Programs must award for both the Fall and Spring terms. Submissions must be received by 12pm.) | **Fall 2024**<br>September: 19th<br>October: 3rd, 17th, 31st<br>November: 7th, 21st<br>December: 5th | **Spring 2025**<br>January: 9th, 23rd<br>February: 6th, 20th<br>March: 6th, 13th |
| **Fall 2024 Term** | **DEADLINE** | |
| EOF Discretionary and Non-Funded Appeals | November 7, 2024 | |
| Last Day to Award All EOF Students | December 5, 2024 | |
| **Spring 2025 Term** | **DEADLINE** | |
| EOF Discretionary and Non-Funded Appeals | February 20, 2025 | |
| Last Day to Award All EOF Students | March 13, 2025 | |

| College/University Financial Aid Office<br>Certification and Payment Request<br>(This process is facilitated by the Campus Financial Aid Office within the institutional portal of NJFAMS). Institutions may not certify and request payment until the Monday following each of the above identified EOF Campus Program Roster processing dates. December 16th is the final date to request payment for the Fall 2024 term; March 24th is the final date to request payment for the Spring 2025 term.) | |
|---|---|
| **Fall 2024 Term** | **Final Time Period to Certify and Request Payment** |
| ALL EOF Students | December 9th – December 16th |
| **Spring 2025 Term** | **Final Time Period to Certify and Request Payment** |
| All EOF Students | March 17th – March 24th |

** Programs must refer to the HESAA Deadline and Processing Calendar for:
FAFSA FILING DEADLINE
Incomplete Applications/Corrections/Verification/Task Completion/Appeals/Add a College

| Reminder: FAFSA/NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application Deadline for EOF Grant consideration |
|---|
| Fall 2024/Spring 2025 – September 15, 2024 |
| Spring 2025 Consideration Only – February 15, 2025 |

# Closing

# Some important items to note:

EOF is the **“EDUCATIONAL” OPPORTUNITY FUND.**
It is **NOT** the “equal” opportunity fund.

EOF operates under the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE). It does **NOT** operate under HESAA.

EOF is **NOT** an entitlement program.
NJ’s TAG award program is an example of an entitlement program.

EOF is a comprehensive support program. It provides both academic and non-academic support.
EOF is **NOT** a financial aid program.

Institutions must actively recruit EOF students from all areas of the State, **NOT** just from urban and rural communities. The usage of NJFAMS as the primary means of recruitment is not appropriate.

Institutions are accountable for ensuring compliance with the EOF regulations & must have an up-to-date EOF policies and procedures manual.

# Final Comments

It is important for EOF campus programs to continue to review the financial information provided by the student for the purposes of financial eligibility. Do not simply rely on NJFAMS.

NJFAMS is a great resource to assist programs with identifying potentially eligible students.

Students can inadvertently make an error when filing their FAFSA that can make them appear as either eligible or ineligible.

If a student is not accepted into your EOF campus program, they should be informed about the reason for their non-acceptance. If the student is ineligible due to **institutional reasons**, this should be clearly articulated and the student should be informed that this rejection is independent of their eligibility for another EOF campus programs.

The OSHE/EOF Central Office does not make admission decisions. Admission into an EOF campus program is conducted at the campus level.

The OSHE/EOF team is here to assist. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

# Resources

OSHE/EOF
Website: https://www.nj.gov/highereducation/EOF/index.shtml

**EOF Regulations:**
http://www.state.nj.us/highereducation/EOF/EOF_Program_Resources.shtml

EOF Campus Program Resources
Webpage: https://www.nj.gov/highereducation/EOF/EOF_Program_Resources.shtml

# Questions

OPPORTUNITY INNOVATION

A STUDENT-CENTERED VISION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

# Thank You!

We look forward to working with you

nj.gov/highereducation

NJHigherEd